



STATE OF MICHIGAN

**Family  
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Agency**

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DOUGLAS E. HOWARD, Director

# News Release

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## **Welfare caseload slightly lower in September**

LANSING – Family Independence Agency Director Douglas E. Howard announced today the September Family Independence Program (FIP) caseload was 71,962, on a par with the caseload in April 1970 when it was 71,758. The August 2001 caseload was 71,976.

Howard said, “With the exception of eleven modest increases, the caseload has declined each month since March 1994, or in 79 out of the last 90 months. During that time, the caseload dropped by 68.3 percent. Of the states that began the welfare reform era with caseloads above 200,000, Michigan is second in the nation in terms of caseload and recipient decreases.”

Of the 71,962 cases in September, approximately 31,000 families (or about 43 percent) were required to participate in Work First and expected to work. Of the balance, about 20,500 were relatives raising children and about 20,500 had a temporary condition that excluded them from the employment requirements. September data also show 58,642 families received day care for 114,580 children.

Howard said, “It’s gratifying to note that Michigan’s FY 2001 caseload was the lowest since 1969, the lowest in a generation.”

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For more information consult the FIA website at [www.mfia.state.mi.us](http://www.mfia.state.mi.us)



JOHN ENGLER, Governor